

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01
SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /094 R

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APPROVED BY EB/FTD:WBREW
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LABOR - IKRAMER(SUBS)
EUR/EE - ISILINS(SUBS)
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RO

SUBJECT: US-ROMANIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

1. U.S. BEGAN TALKS WITH GOR DELEGATION (CHIOVEANU, SION,
AND COMMERCIAL ATTACHE FODOR) ON DECEMBER 20 (MONDAY).
GOR BEGAN WITH STRONG PROTEST AGAINST ARTICLE 3 ACTION,
AND PRESSED REPEATEDLY FOR U.S. TO DEFER IMPOSITION OF
RESTRAINT LEVELS. HOWEVER, GOR HAS NOW ACCEPTED THE FACT
THAT UNILATERAL RESTRAINT IS IN EFFECT AS OF DECEMBER 22,
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AND THAT U.S. IS NOT PREPARED TO LIFT UNILATERAL ACTION
UNLESS A BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED.

2. CHIOVEANU STATED ACCEPTANCE OF PRINCIPLE THAT SOME
LIMITS MUST BE SET ON ROMANIAN EXPORTS OF SUITS, AND
STATED GOR WILLINGNESS TO IMPOSE SELF RESTRAINT EFFECTIVE

JANUARY 1. WHEN DISCUSSIONS OF NUMBERS BEGAN HOWEVER, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT U.S. AND ROMANIA ARE EXTREMELY FAR APART IN THEIR EFFORT TO AGREE ON MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF TRADE IN THESE PRODUCTS.

3. CHIOVENAU STATED THAT TOTAL ROMANIAN EXPORTS FOR 1976 IN CATEGORY 120 (WOOL) WOULD BE 150,000 UNITS; IN CATEGORY 237 (MAN-MADE FIBER) 350,000 UNITS; THESE COMPARE WITH THE UNILATERAL RESTRAINT LEVELS OF 82,500 UNITS IN CATEGORY 120 AND 101,000 UNITS IN 237. CHIOVENEAU STATED THAT ROMANIANS HAVE CONTRACTS FOR 365,000 UNITS IN CATEGORY 120 AND 690,000 UNITS IN CATEGORY 237 FOR 1977.

4. WHILE GOR HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO CUT BACK THEIR EXPECTATIONS IN 1977 SIGNIFICANTLY, NUMBERS THEY HAVE INDICATED THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT ARE STILL FAR BEYOND WHAT U.S. MARKET DISRUPTION SITUATION AND EQUITY OBLIGATIONS TO OTHER RESTRAINED SUPPLIERS WOULD ALLOW.

5. NEGOTIATIONS WILL RESUME ON MONDAY; WHILE WE ARE STILL HOPEFUL THAT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION CAN BE REACHED, IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RECONCILE ROMANIAN TEXTILE EXPORT OBJECTIVES WITH U.S. TEXTILE POLICY.

6. ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR NICOLAE MET WITH SEVERAL HIGH LEVEL U.S. OFFICIALS, INCLUDING SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON AND STRIDENT, TO PROTEST U.S. ACTION AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INCONSISTENT WITH OVERALL U.S. ROMANIAN TRADE GOALS. NICOLAE ARGUMENTS HAVE BEEN REJECTED; WE BELIEVE GOR MAY PRESS ISSUE FURTHER WITH EMBASSY. KISSINGER

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